

approved  
for entry  
CS  
2/22/06

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A valve assembly for controlling the flow of granular material in a closed application system, said valve assembly comprising a first valve component, a second valve component mounted to said first valve component, means for rotating said first valve component relative to said second valve component along a single, common plane for selectively moving said valve assembly between a closed position and an opened position; means for resiliently biasing said valve assembly in the said closed position; a guide element extending from one of the first and second valve components, said guide element comprising means for guiding said valve assembly into retaining means for said valve assembly; and means for removably mounting said valve assembly to a discharge nozzle of a container for providing a closed flow path for said granular material between said container and said valve assembly.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The valve assembly as claimed in Claim 41 wherein said valve assembly is removably mountable to said discharge nozzle of said container such that said container and said first valve component are conjointly rotatable relative to said second valve component.

Claim 3. (previously presented) The valve assembly as claimed in Claim 2 wherein said guide element is adapted to be received in said retaining means for retaining said second valve